

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. A composition wherein said composition is a freeze-dried composition comprising:

(a) a sustained release layer comprising:

(i) a water-soluble polymer; and

(ii) a first pharmaceutically active agent; and

(b) adjacent said sustained release layer, a fast release layer comprising:

(i) a matrix forming agent; and

(ii) a second pharmaceutically active agent;

said composition having a density of from about 0.1 to about 0.5 g/cc.

2. A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of celluloses, cellulose ethers, polycarboxylated vinyl polymers, polyurethanes, gelatins, polysaccharide gums, seed gums, crosslinked alginate gum gels, and combinations thereof.

3. A composition as defined in claim 2, wherein the polycarboxylated vinyl polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic acid polymers, polyacrylic acid polymers crosslinked with polyalkenyl polyethers, and combinations thereof.

4. A composition as defined in claim 2, wherein the polysaccharide gum is selected from the group consisting of karaya gum, ghatti gum, and combinations thereof.

5. A composition as defined in claim 2, wherein the seed gum is selected from the group consisting of guar gum, locust bean gum, psyllium seed gum,

hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxethylmethylcellulos , hydroxyethylethylcellulose, hydroxypropylethylcellulose, carbopol, polyvinyl alcohol, dextran, chitosan, starches, polyacrylamides, polyacrylates, agar, collagen, fibronectin, alginic acid, pectin, hyaluronic acid, and combinations thereof.

9. A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the first pharmaceutically active agent is selected from the group consisting of an anti-fungal agent, an anti-bacterial agent, a nutrient, a vitamin, a mineral, a diagnostic, or combinations thereof.

10. A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the first pharmaceutically active agent is selected from the group consisting of metronidazole, miconazole nitrate, terconazole, chlorpheniramine maleate, pseudoephedrine, dextromethorphan, meclizine dihydrochloride, haloperidol, albuterol sulfate, dimenhydrinate, benzodiazepines, and combinations thereof.

27. a composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the matrix forming agent is selected from the group consisting of animal and vegetable proteins, gums, polysaccharides, alginates, carboxymethylcelluloses, carrageenans, dextrans, pectins, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyacrylic acid, polypeptide/protein complexes, polypeptide/polysaccharide complexes, sugars, inorganic salts, amino acids having from about 2 to about 12 carbon atoms, and combinations thereof.

28. A composition as defined in claim 27, wherein the animal or vegetable protein is selected from the group consisting of gelatins, dextrans, soy, wheat end psyllium seed proteins, and combinations thereof.

29. A composition as defined in claim 27, wherein the gum is selected from the group consisting of acacia, guar, agar, xanthan, and combinations

glutamic acid, L-hydroxyproline, L-isoleucine, L-leucine, L-phenylalanine, and combinations thereof.

35. A composition as defined in claim 27, wherein the matrix forming agent is selected from the group consisting of gelatin, pectin, soy fiber protein, and combinations thereof.

37. A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the second pharmaceutically active agent is selected from the group consisting of an anti-fungal agent, an anti-bacterial agent, a nutrient, a vitamin, a mineral, a diagnostic, or combinations thereof.

38. A composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the second pharmaceutically active agent is selected from the group consisting of metronidazole, miconazole nitrate, terconazole, chlorpheniramine maleate, pseudoephedrine, dextromethorphan, meclizine dihydrochloride, haloperidol, albuterol sulfate, dimenhydrinate, benzodiazepines, and combinations thereof.

Kindly cancel claims 51 and 56-67 without prejudice.

REMARKS

This Supplemental Response and Amendment is respectfully submitted pursuant to the discussion held at an interview with the Examiner and Primary Examiner on May 1, 2003. Applicants thank the Examiner and Primary Examiner for taking the time to meet with applicant Shun Lin and the undersigned.

Applicants have amended the claims as follows: claims 2-6, 9-10, 27-29, 33, 35, 37 and 38 have been amended to correct the Markush language to read "combinations thereof" rather than "any combination of any of the foregoing." Claims 3, 28 and 38 have been amended to correct inadvertent typographical errors. Claims 27 and 28 have been amended to remove the term "derivative" therefrom in order to clarify the claim description. Claim 1 has been amended in order to describe more clearly one embodiment of the compositions of